

In the claims:

1-4. (Withdrawn)

5. **(Currently Amended)** A composition comprising a ~~particulate composite of a cyclodextrin-containing polymer and a therapeutic agent and an inclusion complex of said cyclodextrin polymer and a complexing agent comprising~~ at least one functional group and at least one host/guest moiety that forms an inclusion complex with a host/guest moiety of said polymer ~~an inclusion guest is a compound of claim 1.~~

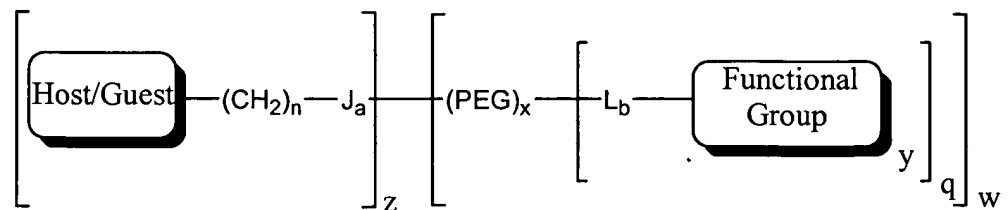
6. **(Currently Amended)** A composition of claim 5, wherein said therapeutic agent is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ an antibiotic, a steroid, a polynucleotide, small molecule pharmaceutical, a virus, a plasmid, a peptide, a peptide fragment, a chelating agent, a biologically active macromolecule, and mixtures thereof.

7. **(Original)** A composition of claim 6, wherein said therapeutic agent is a polynucleotide.

8-10. (Cancelled)

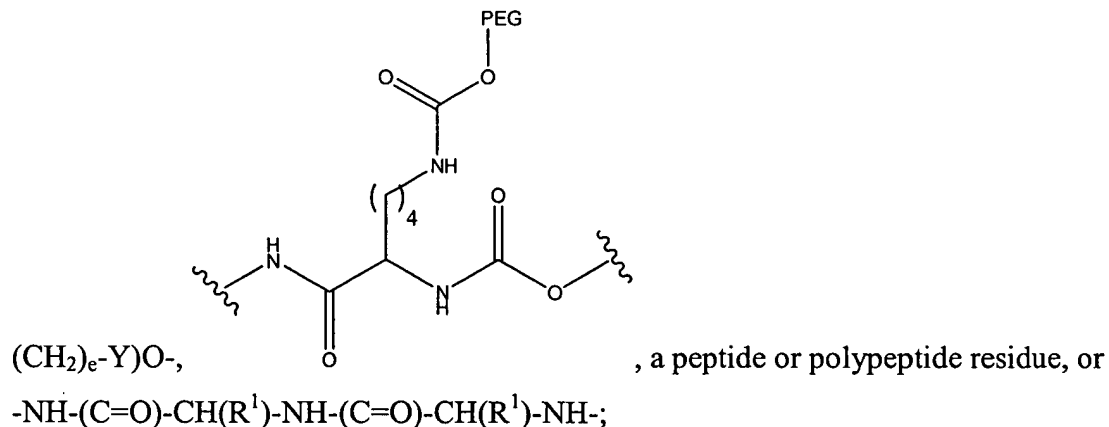
11. **(New)** A composition of claim 5, wherein the host/guest of the complexing agent is selected from adamantyl, naphthyl, cholesterol, cyclodextrin, and mixtures thereof.

12. **(New)** A composition of claim 5, wherein the complexing agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

J is  $-\text{NH}-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2)_d-$ ,  $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_d-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{SS}-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_e-\text{O}-\text{P}(=\text{O})(\text{O}-$



Y is an additional host-guest functionality;

$\text{R}^1$  is  $-(\text{CH}_2)-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , an ester or salt thereof; or  $-(\text{CH}_2)_a-\text{CONH}_2$ ;

PEG is  $-\text{O}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_z-$ , where z varies from 2 to 500;

L is H,  $-\text{NH}$ ,  $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_e-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{S}(=\text{O})_2-\text{HC}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{SS}-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ , or a carbohydrate residue;

a is 0 or 1;

b is 0 or 1;

d ranges from 0 to 6;

e ranges from 1 to 6;

n ranges from 0 to 6;

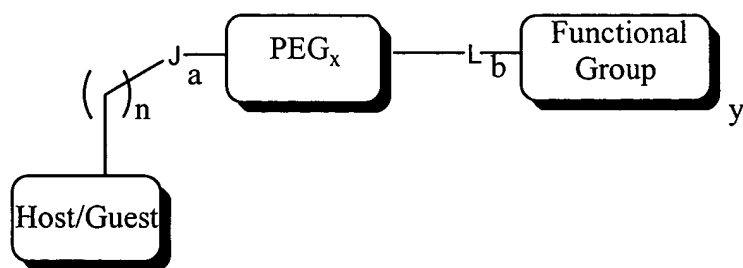
q ranges from 1 to 5;

w ranges from 1 to 5;

y is 1; and

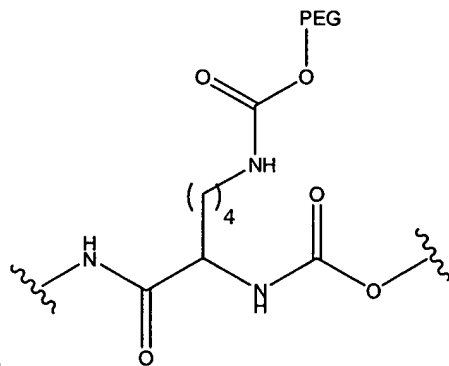
x is 0 or 1.

13. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the complexing agent is a compound of the formula:



wherein

J is  $-\text{NH}-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2$ ,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_d-$ ,  $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_d-$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{SS}-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_e-\text{O}-\text{P}(=\text{O})(\text{O}-$



$(\text{CH}_2)_e-\text{Y})\text{O}-$ ,

, a peptide or polypeptide residue, or

$-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}(\text{R}^1)-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}(\text{R}^1)-\text{NH}-$ ;

Y is an additional host-guest functionality;

$\text{R}^1$  is  $-(\text{CH}_2)-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , an ester or salt thereof; or  $-(\text{CH}_2)_a-\text{CONH}_2$ ;

PEG is  $-\text{O}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_z-$ , where z varies from 2 to 500;

L is H,  $-\text{NH}-$ ,  $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_e-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{S}(=\text{O})_2-\text{HC}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{SS}-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ , or a carbohydrate residue;

a is 0 or 1;

b is 0 or 1;

d ranges from 0 to 6;

e ranges from 1 to 6;

n ranges from 0 to 6;

y is 1; and

x is 0 or 1.

14. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a group selected from a ligand, a nuclear localization signal, an endosomal release peptide, an endosomal release polymer, or a membrane permeabilization agent.

15. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a moiety that increases the solubility of the composition under biological conditions relative to a composition of the polymer and therapeutic agent alone.

16. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a moiety that stabilizes the composition under biological conditions relative to a composition of the polymer and therapeutic agent alone.

17. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one functional group includes a therapeutic agent reversibly bound to the complexing agent.

18. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the complexing agent further comprises a spacer group.

19. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the polymer comprises a host moiety that forms an inclusion complex with a guest moiety of the complexing agent.

20. (New) A composition of claim 5, wherein the polymer comprises a guest moiety that forms an inclusion complex with a host moiety of the complexing agent.

21. (New) A composition of claim 20, wherein the guest moiety is an adamantyl group and the host moiety is a cyclodextrin moiety.